



[Comments](#) 0 | [Recommend](#) 0

## 5 lawmakers join in calling for Inland FDIC office



10:00 PM PDT on Thursday, October 30, 2008

By DUANE W. GANG  
The Press-Enterprise

Five Inland lawmakers joined this week in calling on the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. to set up an office in Riverside or San Bernardino counties to liquidate assets of troubled banks.

The FDIC's permanent headquarters for managing the liquidation of troubled assets is in Dallas, but the agency is looking for space in Southern California that it can use for the next three to five years.

The federal agency would have 300 to 600 employees and need about 200,000 square feet of space.

In a letter to Sheila Bair, the agency's chairwoman, the five lawmakers said the Inland area has the needed space and at a lower cost than elsewhere in Southern California.

The area has five buildings that meet the agency's needs, including four "on the doorstep" of Ontario International Airport, the lawmakers said.

Reps. Ken Calvert, R-Corona; Jerry Lewis, R-Redlands; Joe Baca, D-Rialto; Mary Bono Mack, R-Palm Springs; and Gary Miller, R-Diamond Bar, all signed the Oct. 29 letter.

"We support your mission to implement programs that result in mortgage loans that can be sustained over time and to avoid unnecessary foreclosures that harm individual borrowers and the economy," the lawmakers said.

"To that end, we encourage the FDIC to consider the Inland Empire as a viable alternative, as part of the selection process, and to ensure the location that is chosen best services our nation during this housing crisis and difficult time."

Others also support FDIC moving to the Inland region, including Tim Prince, Lewis' Democratic challenger on Nov. 4, campaign manager Patrick Kahler said.

The lawmakers joined San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane in asking the FDIC to consider the Inland region as a home. Biane on Monday sent a similar letter to Bair after published media reports said the FDIC was close to picking a location in Orange County.

David Barr, an FDIC spokesman, said the agency is not disclosing the locations under consideration.

"We hope to have a final selection in the next couple of weeks," he said.

*Reach Duane W. Gang at 951-368-9547 or [dgang@PE.com](mailto:dgang@PE.com)*

---